

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1; and
 - (b) a nucleic acid molecule comprising nucleotides 63 to 5012 of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.
2. **(Original)** An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
3. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.
4. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring variant of a polypeptide ~~having kinase activity~~ comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, said variant having kinase activity, wherein
 - the nucleic acid molecule hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or nucleotides 63 to 5012 of SEQ ID NO:1 in 0.5M sodium phosphate, 7% SDS at 65°C, followed by one or more washes in 0.2 X SSC at 65°C; and
 - the nucleic acid molecule is at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO:1 or nucleotides 63 to 5012 of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 5-6. **(Cancelled)**
7. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is completely complementary to the nucleotide sequence of the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1, 2, 3, or 4.
8. **(Previously Presented)** An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1, 2, 3, or 4 and a nucleotide sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide.
9. **(Previously Presented)** A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1, 2, 3, or 4.
10. **(Original)** The vector of claim 9, which is an expression vector.

11. (Original) A host cell transfected with the vector of claim 9.
12. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a polypeptide comprising culturing a host cell transfected with the vector of claim 9 in an appropriate culture medium to[, thereby,] produce the polypeptide expressed by the nucleic acid molecule.
- 13-21. (Cancelled)
22. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1, 2, 3, or 4 ~~which selectively hybridizes in 0.5M sodium phosphate, 7% SDS at 65°C, followed by one or more washes in 0.2 X SSC at 65°C, to a nucleic acid molecule~~ and instructions for use.
- 23-30. (Cancelled)
31. (Previously Presented) The method defined in claim 12, further comprising isolating the polypeptide.
32. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 consisting of nucleotides 63 to 5012 of SEQ ID NO:1.
33. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 consisting of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 34-35. (Cancelled)
36. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 4 which is at least 97% homologous to SEQ ID NO:1 or nucleotides 63 to 5012 of SEQ ID NO:1.
37. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 4 which is at least 99% homologous to SEQ ID NO:1 or nucleotides 63 to 5012 of SEQ ID NO:1.
38. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 4 which encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least about 98% homologous to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

39. (Previously Presented) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 4 which encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least about 99% homologous to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.